

ART OF AMERICA

CLAIMS

- 5 1. A coated steel wire (10) having a bright looking surface,
said steel wire (10) having a steel core (12),
said steel core (12) being covered with an intermediate coating layer
(14),
~~and immediately thereupon with
said steel wire being further coated with a polymer (16) being
selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic polyesters,
polyimides, polyamides, polyphthalamides, crystalline
polyvinylchlorides and polycarbonates;~~
~~polyester~~
said polymer being transparent and being colored.

10 2. A steel wire according to claim 1, wherein said polymer is colored.

15 2 X A steel wire according to claim 1, said polymer comprising a
transparent coloring agent.

20 3 X A steel wire according to any one of the preceding claims,
wherein said polymer is a thermoplastic polyester selected from the
group consisting of polyethylene terephthalate, polybutylene
terephthalate and polyethylene naphtenate.
A1

25 4 X A steel wire according to claim 3,
wherein said thermoplastic polyester is polyethylene terephthalate.

30 5 X A steel wire according to any one of the preceding claims,
wherein said coloring agent is organic.

A2

6 X A steel wire according to any one of the preceding claims,
wherein said intermediate coating is a metallic coating such as a
copper coating, a copper alloy coating, a zinc coating, a zinc alloy
coating, a nickel coating, a nickel alloy, a tin coating or a tin alloy

Sub AG
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coating.

Sub A2 End

7 ~~8~~. A steel wire according to any one of claims 1 to 6,
wherein said intermediate coating is a coating such as a copper-tin
sulfate coating or a copper-sulfate coating.

8 ~~9~~. A method of manufacturing a coated steel wire (10) having a bright
looking colored surface, said method comprising the following
steps :

- 10 (a) providing a steel core (12) ;
 (b) coating said steel core (12) with an intermediate coating layer
(14) ;
 (c) giving a degree of brightness to said intermediate coating (14) ;
 (d) using a transparent polymer (16), said polymer being selected
from the group consisting of thermoplastic polyesters, polyimides,
polyamides, polyphthalimides and polycarbonates ;
 (e) further coating said bright steel wire with said polymer (16).
Polyester

9 ~~10~~. A method according to claim ~~8~~,
wherein said coating with said intermediate coating layer is done by
means of a hot dip operation.

10 ~~11~~. A method according to claim ~~8~~ or ~~10~~,
said method further comprising the step of coloring said polymer.

25 ~~11~~. A method according to any one of claims ~~8~~ to ~~10~~,
wherein said giving of a degree of brightness to said intermediate
coating is done by wet drawing the coated steel wire.

30 ~~12~~. A method according to any one of claims ~~8~~ to ~~10~~,
wherein said further coating with a polymer is done by an extrusion

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process

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